

RAILWAY CASHIER HELD FOR THEFT

George H. Secor, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, is said to be short over \$10,000 in his accounts.

HE FLED TO MEXICO AND THEN RETURNED.

Admits Taking Money, but Says All of It Went to His Fellow Clerks, Who Speculated in Wall Street.

George H. Secor, formerly cashier of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railway Company, with offices at No. 215 Produce Exchange, was arrested at his home, No. 243 West Ninety-eighth street, to-day, charged specifically with the stealing of \$70 from the company. In the complaint made to the Grand Jury when Secor was indicted last month it was charged that the sum of \$10,000 was missing.

Secor was an employee for the company for the past twenty years, working his way up from a minor position to the one of great trust he held when he fled to escape the consequences of what he had done. He is now fifty-one years old and gray haired.

When the special examination of the railroad company's books was ordered last January Secor was in the office. Supt. C. S. Jewett, of the company, testified before the Grand Jury that when the accountants appeared Secor put on his hat and coat and said that he was going to lunch. He went out, but failed to go back. Instead he took the first train for the West and got into Mexico in the shortest possible time. Mr. Jewett said that Secor had charge of all the incoming and outgoing money, which he was supposed to bank with the National City Bank.

The auditors declare that they found a total deficit of \$10,000 and that the books, which Secor controlled absolutely, had been falsified for the past two years to cover up the disappearance of the money.

The direct charge on which Secor was arrested was made by a clerk in the office, Charles R. Phyle. He said that on the night of Jan. 7 he put \$79.92 in cash and a lot of checks in the safe. The next morning, he said, Secor gave him the checks to put in the bank, but that the \$79 was missing.

The 30 cents remained in the petty cash box, he said.

The arrest was made through arrangement with Secor's attorneys, Messrs. McNaught and O'Connell, who went to his home, a fine house near Riverside Drive, where Secor lives with his wife and grown daughter and son, and formally placed the man in custody.

"He was badly worked up and appeared to feel keenly his arrest. He was apparently frank in talking of the matter and said it would all be cleared up satisfactorily in a little time. He was taken before Judge Foster in General Sessions and pleaded not guilty through his counsel, Fred House. He was remanded to the Tombs in \$100 bail.

"I came back of my own volition," said Secor to reporters in court, "and I'm ready now to face the music. If I hadn't been nearly crazy at the time I never would have run away."

"After I'd been down in Mexico for a week or so, I pulled myself together and made up my mind to come back and see it out. I arrived here on Saturday, communicated with my attorneys, who fixed it with the police and here I am."

"I want to deny positively," continued Secor, "that I or my family profited in any way by this money they say is missing. We never realized on a cent of it. Some of the money was loaned out to the clerks in the office who were speculating in Wall Street."

"When I called on them to make good before the examination of the books they said it was impossible. That left me in a bad way through my accommodating friendship."

ALLEGED THIEVES AT FIRE.

Three Men Accused of Robbing Apartments in Flat-House.

Within a few minutes after fire was discovered in the tenement-house at No. 70 Amsterdam avenue this afternoon several of the women, who were alone at home, began to cry for the police. Their cries attracted the attention of Battalion Chief Binn, who went upstairs and found four doors broken open.

Chief Binn notified Detectives Redig and Geisler, of West Sixty-eighth street station, and, going into the house, they found Thomas Meade, of No. 86 Amsterdam avenue, James McGuire, of No. 6, and Joseph Ryan, of No. 10.

The detectives say the men were making the apartments and were about to get away when arrested. They were taken to the West Side Court, where Magistrate Cornell held each in \$200 bail.

Forsythe's New Styles Cheviot Waists

Nothing quite equal to our Cheviot Waists. They are enduring, stylish and very serviceable. Magnificent stock. Latest importations.

\$4.50

We recommend these Waists very highly as being particularly desirable for present wear.

They come in white, black and white colors. Sizes 32 to 44.

Your inspection is cordially invited.

John Forsythe

THE WAIST HOUSE

805 Broadway, 17th and 18th Streets

MAN DEAD, POLICE SEEK COMPANION

Leonice Melles Expired After a Drinking Bout, and Doctor Who Attended Him Thinks He Was Poisoned by Chloral.

SEARCH BEING MADE FOR MISS NUNNALLY.

They Had Been Intimate Friends and It Is Believed She Could Throw Some Light on Strange Case.

In the hope that she may be able to throw some light on the death of Leonice Melles, the young musician and theatrical manager, who died at his father's home in the Parthenon apartment-house at No. 400 Manhattan avenue yesterday afternoon, Coroner Scholer has instructed the police to find Miss Florence Nunnally, a young woman who frequently visited his room at No. 326 West Twenty-eighth street. Miss Nunnally knows she is being sought but the detectives of the West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street station have not found her.

The reason the Coroner wants to find Miss Nunnally is that Dr. C. W. Bufum, of No. 408 Manhattan avenue, who diagnosed the case of Melles as one of chloral poisoning, probably due to the administering, accidentally or otherwise, of knockout drops, told him that the young man shortly before his death regained consciousness and said that he was going to lunch with her and that he had been drinking with her and other women. He did not accuse the woman of being in any way responsible for his condition, but the Coroner is satisfied that Miss Nunnally can give an account of the dead man's movements on the last night of his life and is seeking her for that purpose.

The police have also learned that Melles and Miss Nunnally visited a number of the resorts in "Little Coney Island" Saturday night and drank a good deal together. It was at one of these resorts, they say, that Melles left the woman and started for home. The man who accompanied him home and left him with the halibut of the Parthenon is not known, but the police believe he is a bartender who knew Melles, and volunteered to take him home. This man is being sought in "Little Coney Island."

The woman the authorities are so anxious to find is thirty-three years old, and is employed in the millinery shop of Blum & Koch, at No. 90 Fifth avenue. She is described as being rather pretty, tall, slender and a blonde. On the house of her employers her address is given as No. 310 West Thirty-third street. The building at that number is a large tenement, one of those condemned by the new Pennsylvania Railroad terminal and it has not been occupied for some time.

Known as Mrs. De Melles.

As a matter of fact Miss Nunnally had a furnished room at No. 326 West Twenty-eighth street, where Melles also has a theatrical agency.

She was known there as Mrs. de Melles, Melles having pressed the "de" to his name after a trip to Paris which he made some years ago. The pair hired the room a month ago, according to Mrs. Henry Armstrong, the landlady. They quarreled a good deal, but always made up again. On Saturday night Melles went out with the woman. Mrs. Armstrong doesn't know whether they came back or not, but is certain the woman did, for she says she saw her leave alone yesterday morning.

That is the last trace that the police have been able to get of the woman.

All the Detectives-Sergeants Dempsey and Colby have been waiting at the shop of Blum & Koch for the woman to appear, but she has not shown up and has not sent any word explaining her absence. She has never been absent before since she entered the firm's employ, from which the police are endeavoring to get her.

Miss Nunnally's real home was at No. 110 East Eighty-third street, where her stepmother and the latter's four children live. She was last seen by an Evening World reporter to-day admitted the she had been in the intimacy between the girl and the dead man.

Infatuated with Melles.

"She was infatuated with Melles. She always said she loved him, and I guess she did. I advised her to quit her relations with him and get married, but she wouldn't do it. She told me that Melles had a great influence with her and that she believed he would ultimately do the right thing by her."

CHAPMAN & CO.

Brooklyn. Entire Block, Fulton, From Bridge to Dufield St. Brooklyn.

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SAYS BLUNDERS AT FIRE COST 3 LIVES

Pastor of Burned Long Island City Church Accuses Members of the Department of Gross Incompetence.

The Rev. Edward F. Hannegan, pastor of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, in Long Island City, in the burning of the rectory of which on Saturday Father Ernest and two servants, Mary Brady and Margaret McCue, lost their lives, gave out a statement in St. John's Hospital to-day severely criticizing the handling of the fire by the firemen.

"This loss of life could have been averted if the firemen had done their duty," says Father Hannegan. "Father Kearney, who was obliged to jump from a window and was badly hurt in consequence, was only fifty feet above the ground, and yet there wasn't a ladder to reach him. I understand the firemen have extension ladders that reach seventy feet, yet no such ladders appeared at this fire. If they did, the firemen never used them. Then why were there no life nets? Father Kearney might have jumped into such a net and saved himself his injuries, and the dead girls could certainly have saved themselves in this way. They stood at a window, and as the smoke billowed in and firemen stood around beneath them and never made a move to help them. The firemen do their duty; they were not equipped as they should have been and three lives were sacrificed to their incompetency."

OPPOSE BUILDING LAW.

Contractors Object to Ordinance of Fireproof Material.

The Aldermanic Committee on Buildings gave public hearing to-day on the proposed ordinance which provides that every building more than 75 feet in height to be used for public purposes shall be constructed from fireproof material. Alderman Leo Harburger presided, with Aldermen Dietz, Jones, Tolk, Marks, Hand and Dr. Gillen sitting with him.

Louis Harding, of the Master Carpenters' Association and chairman of the committee on Legislation of the Employers' Association, spoke in opposition to the ordinance. He held that the changes proposed are too radical. He believed that such an ordinance would put a stop to all building operations and would not be productive of any good result. He said a compromise, making the limit 125 feet, would be fair. As the law now stands the buildings beyond 150 feet must be entirely of fire-proofed material.

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Exclusive High-Class Millinery J. Koch & Sons

WEST 23d STREET
(Opposite Fifth Ave. Hotel).

TUESDAY, March 8
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SPRING OPENING MILLINERY

Presenting the latest
PARISIAN MODELS
together with our own
MATCHLESS CREATIONS

The flower, leaf and vine decorations of the store breathe the spirit of the event and mirror the commencement of Spring.

West 23d St., N. Y.
(Opposite Fifth Ave. Hotel).
Fulton St. & Elm Place, B'klyn.
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Vautin's The Unusual Store.

ORIENTAL RUGS,

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